



## Public Comment Period

Remove eleven 300 Area facilities on the Hanford Site from the  
**Hanford Site Air Operating Permit**  
August 28 through October 13, 2006



*The Hanford Site's 300 Area is located along the Columbia River just north of Richland, Washington.*

The Washington State Department of Ecology seeks your input on a significant modification to the Hanford Site Air Operating Permit (AOP).

The proposed changes will remove eleven 300 Area facilities on the Hanford Site from the AOP. These facilities have 18 stacks or vents which emit or are permitted by the AOP for the emission of radionuclide, toxic, or criteria air pollutants. As facility operations and the need for AOP permitting end, the AOP would no longer regulate the emissions from the facilities. It is proposed to clean up these buildings through deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning, and demolition. Emissions and monitoring associated with these activities will be regulated under the Comprehensive Environmental Response, Compensation, and Liability Act (CERCLA).

Ecology proposes to allow withdrawal of each of these facilities from the AOP upon onset of deactivation, decontamination, decommissioning, and demolition under CERCLA work plans that will be approved by the U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). Ecology seeks public comment on this permit modification. The permit holder is the U.S. Department of Energy - Richland Operations Office, PO Box 550, Richland, WA 99352. The public comment period will run from August 28 through October 13, 2006.

### **How will the Hanford Site Air Operating Permit change?**

The permit modification will remove requirements for monitoring and control of radioactive, toxic, and criteria air pollutant emissions for eleven buildings in the 300 Area of the Hanford Site. The buildings to be removed from the AOP are listed on the right.

### **How will air emissions from these buildings be regulated?**

Authority for regulating air emissions at these facilities will move from Ecology and the Washington State Department of Health to USEPA. Once Ecology removes these facilities from the AOP, they will be regulated under CERCLA. A new removal action work plan for 300 Area facilities will describe how the U.S. Department of Energy will deactivate, decontaminate, decommission, and demolish the buildings, their stacks, and related facilities. The work plan will include an air monitoring plan that sets monitoring and control under CERCLA requirements. The plan will also include applicable, reasonable, and appropriate requirements from other regulations for monitoring and control of contamination and emissions for the buildings during cleanup activities.

#### **300 Area Buildings to be removed from the Hanford Site Air Operating Permit**

318 Radiological Calibrations Lab  
320 Physical Sciences Lab  
323 Mechanical Properties Lab  
325 Radiochemical Processing Lab  
326 Material Science Lab  
329 Chemical Science Lab  
331 Life Science Lab  
340 Waste Neutralization Facility  
340B Waste Loadout Facility  
3730 Gamma Irradiation Facility  
MO-423 Radiological Counting Facility

### **How do I view related documents?**

During the comment period, the affected portions of the AOP and the supporting CERCLA Engineering Evaluation/Cost Analysis #3 for the 300 Area are available for public review Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 12 p.m. and 1 p.m. - 4 p.m., at the Department of Ecology, Nuclear Waste Program Library, 3100 Port of Benton Blvd., Richland, Washington. To make an appointment to review the documents call 509-372-7920. You can also view the documents online at <http://www.ecy.wa.gov/programs/nwp/commentperiods.htm> or at one of the public information repositories listed below.

#### **Portland**

Portland State University  
Branford Price and Miller Library  
934 SW Harrison  
Attn: Judy Andrews 503-725-4126

#### **Seattle**

University of Washington  
Suzzallo Library  
Government Publications Division  
Attn: Eleanor Chase 206-543-4664

#### **Richland**

U.S. Department of Energy Reading Room  
Consolidated Information Center, Room 101-L  
2770 University Dr.  
Attn: Janice Parthree 509-372-7443

#### **Spokane**

Gonzaga University  
Foley Center  
E. 502 Boone  
Attn: Linda Pierce 509-323-6110

**How do I make a comment?**

Please send all comments in writing to:  
Doug Hendrickson  
Washington State Department of Ecology  
Nuclear Waste Program  
3100 Port of Benton Blvd.  
Richland, WA 99354  
509-372-7971 fax  
dohe461@ecy.wa.gov

Ecology will consider and respond to all comments received during the public comment period. No public hearing is scheduled at this time; however, Ecology will consider requests for a hearing. Please contact Tanya Williams at 509-372-7883 or tawi461@ecy.wa.gov to request a public hearing.

If you need this publication in an alternate format, please call the Nuclear Waste Program at 509-372-7950. Persons with hearing loss can call 711 for Washington Relay Service. Persons with a speech disability can call 877-833-6341.

**Public Comment Period**

August 28 through October 13, 2006  
Hanford Site Air Operating Permit Modification  
Modification: Remove eleven 300 Area facilities of the Hanford Site from the Air Operating Permit.

**Tell Us What You Think!**

You are invited to participate in the decision to modify the Hanford Site Air Operating Permit. Public comments are critical to Ecology’s decision-making process. Look inside to learn more about the proposed changes to the Hanford Site Air Operating Permit.